SOUTH VIET NAM In Struggle

7th Year — March 12, 1973

No 189

Address: HT 1217 B-SVN
c/o DAZIMINA HANOI
19, Hai Ba Trung, Hanoi, DRVN
and all RSVN Embassies, Information Bureaux in foreign countries

CENTRAL ORGAN OF THE SOUTH VIET NAM NATIONAL FRONT FOR LIBERATION

Saigon administration and Article 8...

ARTICLE 8 of the Agreement on Ending the War and Restoring Peace in Viet Nam has stipulated in no equivocal terms the return of captured military personnel of the parties to be carried out parallel to the withdrawal of US and other US and Saigon allied countries' troops. It has also provided that "The question of the return of the Vietnamese civilian personnel captured and detained in South Viet Nam will be resolved by the two South Vietnamese parties on the basis of the principles of Article 21 b) of the Agreement on the Cessation of Hostilities in Viet Nam of July 20, 1954. The latter provision, it is recalled, deals with the release of "civilian internees", a phrase "understood to mean all persons who, having in any way contributed to the political and armed struggle between the two parties, have been arrested for that reason and have been kept in detention by either party during the period of hostilities."

The importance of the stipulated course of action is left in no doubt. The resolution of the 1rst Commission of the International Jurists' Conference on Indochina held in Brussels on February 10 and 11, 1973 recommends to world jurists to "see that immediate and urgent measures will be taken, on the basis of the Paris Accord and the Protocol on detained Vietnamese personnel, with a view to the release of all prisoners whoever they may be and particularly political prisoners, in conformity with Article 8 and the Protocol whereabout and the spirit of Article 11. The strict implementation of those provisions is incumbent on South Vietnamese parties as an imperative requirement conducive to national reconciliation and concord and with a view to genuinely democratic general elections."

STRICTLY abiding by the obligations resulting from the Paris Accord, the PRG has returned to the US party, during the first phase of the operation lasting from February 12 to 15, 27 Americans (18 military and 9 civilians). A return to the Saigon regime was made of 1,057 war prisoners including 35 officers from junior lieutenant to colonel rank during the same period.

As a gesture of good will, an additional contingent of 320 POW's was handed over on February 19, 1973.

All those releases took place at Loc Ninh airfield, in full compliance with the provisions of the Paris Agreement and the Protocol concerning the return of captured personnel, namely: communication of the text of the Protocol to all captured persons within five days after signature of the Protocol, supply of facilities to Joint Military Teams to observe and to the International Commission of Control and Supervision to control and supervise the operations. As a matter of fact, their observation, control and supervision responsibilities were normally discharged and duly reported in procès-verbaux signed by all parties concerned.

The returnees were all in good health, which proved that they had received during their detention a humane treatment and in accordance with international practice. The US party's representative has recorded his remarks on the procès-verbal as follows: "Health: good, treatment: adequate." Many US and Vietnamese POW's declared to press correspondents that they highly appreciated, and felt grateful for, the PRG supply of food, clothing, accommodation and medical care.

Unfortunately, the same thing cannot be said about the Saigon party who not only ill treats the PLAF men but also manhandles their own newly released people. Psywar officers were seen snatching away from Saigon soldiers their little bags containing souvenirs of their stay in the liberated areas and presents from the local population. And that was no doubt done in execution of the instruction to wipe out all traces of their time with the "Viet Cong" before putting them to "brain washing" and "ideological reeducation" in the American style.

Anyway, the Saigon side's true colours were fully bared during the reception of the PRG plan for the second phase of the operation which was to begin on March 5 and end on March 10, 1973.

Whereas the PRG proposed to return more than one quarter of the captured Saigon military personnel, as previously agreed on, the Saigon side revised more than once the number of the persons to be released, which eventually was reduced to 3,000, or only one tenth of the total, according to the incomplete list supplied by Saigon. The latter even put forth the absurd suggestion to free 2,000 Viet Cong POW's for 1,000 Saigon captured men, in flagrant violation of Article 1 and 4 of the Protocol concerning the return of captured military and civilian personnel, which has provided for the release of "all captured Vietnamese military personnel" and of "Vietnamese civilian personnel captured and detained," without any restriction.

Other glaring breaches have been committed by the Saigon side, namely:

— ill-treatment of captured PLAF men and non-communication to them of the texts of the Accord and Protocol;

— failure to supply a complete list of detainees and of detention places;

— refusal to let the national Red Cross Societies of Poland and Canada to visit the places of the detention;

— bombing of places suggested by the PRG for the release of POW's.

Saigon attitude toward the return of civilian Vietnamese personnel in its hands is even more illuminating. It has given no list and only stated that there are no political prisoners in its jails but only "common law" offenders and 5,081 Viet Cong. It is common knowledge that in its thousand and one prisons, are arbitrarily held hundreds of thousands of patriots and peace

(*Continued on page 5*)

SAIGON, a month after

CLAD in a blue brocade gown with circular white designs four inches across — a stylized Chinese character meaning Longevity — and wearing a black turban which went halfway down his forehead, the "President of the Republic of Viet Nam," the leader of the Saigon regime, appeared on TV screens on the watchnight of the Lunar Year, immediately after a scene of *tuong* classical opera had described the pitiful fate of a felonious seigneur of yore. Folds of flesh were hanging from his chin.

The immediate reaction of many a TV watcher was: "But he looks so awfully like the late Diem!"

"What kind of a President is that!"

Peace had returned. Foreign troops were about to leave the country. The population was expecting from the "President" statements that were somewhat more consistent with the new situation. And yet, nothing but the old chestnuts: "We won't let those Commies come to Saigon to enjoy good food!" — "We'll shoot the hell out of them!", etc. Truculent words that betrayed confusion and fear.

In the air-conditioned lounges of the Continental Hotel, some politicians leaned back in big armchairs upholstered in yellow velvet, and pouted their lips: "What kind of a President is that? The speech might have come from a colonial cop!"

The politicians' offensive on the "Independence Palace" had only begun. Now that the war had come to an end, the *Khaki Party* of the generals had to step down. All those former understrappers of the French colonial army (corporals and sergeants of the "native auxiliary troops") who had been presented with silver-tipped ebony general's batons by their American masters and appointed to all the profitable posts — President, Prime Minister, Cabinet ministers, deputies to the National Assembly, etc. — now must give way to their competitors.

On the third day of Têt, high-ranking functionaries of the Saigon administration exchanged tips on the latest machinations of Tran Kim Tuyen, the former head of Diem's secret police and these last few years Thieu's hidden political counselor. He had earned the reputation of being the most wicked plotter of the land. "Tuyen," the men whispered into each other's ears, "has smelt an opportunity for profitable business and is preparing new sensational tricks." Duong Van Minh left his tennis games for endless conferences with his associates. Nguyen Cao Ky got out of his retreat in Nha Trang and rushed back to the Tan Son Nhut air-base, probably in preparation for a dramatic comeback at the expense of his old rival. Invited to the inauguration meeting of a new "Front" rigged up by Thieu, held at Tao Dan square on the morning of February 23, 1973, Tran Van Tuyen pointedly absented himself. Vu Van Mau, of the An Quang pagoda coterie, repelled Thieu's advances, saying: "We'll get in touch with both sides." Bishop Nguyen Van Binh declared in a sermon at the Saigon cathedral: "The people are thoroughly fed up with their corrupt administrators." Tran Loc and Thai Van Nghiem were even more outspoken: "The movement is rising which seeks to overthrow Thieu. Thieu is a doubledealer with neither talent nor integrity. The people don't trust him. He can't rule any more."

The "Independence Palace" is facing tempests from all sides.

"All that is but a beginning!"

The bus stations are crowded. Peace has come back. People go to the provinces, to Tay Ninh, Vung Tau, Phan Thiet... to visit friends and relatives. Animated conversations take place in refreshment stalls. In My Tho, NFL flags — blue and red, with a gold star — flutter everywhere.

While the people take heart and look forward to joyful events, the coercive apparatus of the Saigon administration has gone into high gear. In an order published in the *Tien Tuyen*, four-star General Tran Thien Khiem, the prime minister, urged city police, secret police and military police to step up their activities in order to show the people that the "national administration's law is still very much in force." Khiem and his ilk feel in the ripples that have risen that a real tempest is brewing, that the people are determined to get and maintain peace, realize national concord, and win democratic freedoms. The deep aspirations of the million, which are embodied in the newly-signed Paris accord, will gather irresistible momentum in the coming struggle, in which no shot will be fired but which none the less holds great dangers in store for the waning forces holed up in the "Independence Palace."

Pro-government circles in the Lower House of Parliament, which holds its sessions in the building of the former Municipal Theatre by Lam Son square complain that the administration has not prepared itself in the least for the new circumstances. Up to the beginning of this year, 1973, the "government" was insisting that the war would go on and that no agreement would be signed unless the conditions put forward by the "President" were met. But eventually, says a parliamentarian wag, President Nixon rammed a piece of rotten Californian cheese down the throat of President Thieu, who was left with no other alternative but to grin and swallow it.

On the morning of January 28, a big disappointment awaited news-hungry Saigon folks: nowhere in the Saigon press was the Paris Agreement reproduced in full, and no extract was published of any Protocol. This was in pursuance of a strict order from the Information Department, a powerful government agency newly set up and entrusted to Hoang Duc Nha, Thieu's nephew and closest adviser. There were gaping blanks on such newspapers as *Dien Tin, Doi Lap, Dan Chu Moi*, due to censorship. A spicy detail, though: the blank spaces all bore this inscription: "Voluntarily left out". Because without this "voluntary" compliance, the editors would be brought to court and sentenced to a few months' imprisonment as well as heavy fines running into millions of piastres.

On the afternoon of February 10, Major-General Ngo Dzu lost his job as head of the delegation of the "Republic of Viet Nam" to the central Joint Military Commission (JMC). It was but the latest in a series of unpleasant surprises that had befallen him in recent times. In late 1971, he found himself heading a list of criminal dealers in heroin. so harmful to the physical health and fighting morale of the American GIs, which list the Procunsul Bunker had handed to Thieu. Then in April 1972, when the positions at Dakto-Tan Canh fell to the liberation forces, he was dismissed from his post of commander of the 2nd Military Zone, summoned back to Saigon and threatened with court-martial. Then he was suddenly appointed head of the Saigon military delegation to the JMC without, however, receiving any precise instructions from his boss. And then, the latest bolt from the blue: he was kicked out of the job only after a week and four stormy sessions.

His successor, Paratroop Major-General Du Quoc Dong, is known for the defeats he suffered in Cambodia and, more recently, in Quang Tri. He came to the conference room of the JMC in his camouflage battle-dress, his face sallowed by a lingering liver ailment, and equipped with still less instructions than his predecessor!

"No flag can be planted in people's hearts!"

Before his appointment as head of the Saigon delegation to the JMC, General Ngo Dzu had said that he knew next to nothing about the Paris accord. In any event, no general could have found the agreement to his liking. For the more than 70 generals now on Saigon's payroll, who had been living a princely life complete with shining American cars, comfortable villas and fat bank accounts abroad, peace came as a funeral — the funeral of their ambitions. Good-bye to quick promotion, wealth, profitable smuggling of American-aid goods and even more profitable auctioning of former American bases.

But the Agreement was signed, with the whole world watching. The leaders of the Saigon regime hastily sought to create a "half peace, half war" situation. A temporary stop was put to division-size operations, which were replaced by thousands of police operations, which were to "overwhelm" the land. Was it war continued? This was of course vigorously denied. But had peace come? Not yet. And the curfew could not of course be lifted as yet. No biologist has so far succeeded in pairing a dove and a hawk and getting a hybrid out of them. But the Saigon administration performed that miracle thanks to its political talismans. Flight after flight of heavily-laden helicopters dropped tons of barbed wire into many areas of the Mekong delta, to help set up new "bolts". The coils of barbed wire, it was argued, should be unmistakable signs of "government control."

But the people decided that they would erase those American-style "bolts". Many soldiers of the Saigon army itself lent them a hand in this house-cleaning. No barbed wire "bolt" can be set up in people's hearts. In a similar vein, an elderly woman said, pointing to the Saigon flags being hastily flown on orders from the authorities: "You can force people to hoist flags in the streets but you can't plant flags in their hearts!"

"Good-bye GIs! And the prices rise"

There are less and less GIs in the streets of Saigon. The 7th Air Force has left for Thailand. The headquarters of various American army corps have been dissolved. MACV, the bulky and bustling "Asian Pentagon", has shrunk dramatically. Farewell banquets at which toasts are exchanged and medals pinned are held in the "Independence Palace," the American Embassy, the building of the Saigon General Staff, the MACV headquaters "Good-bye" is said with ill-concealed bitterness. The departing Americans act as though they were somewhat reassured by their President's insistence that this is an honourable exit. They pat their protégés, the Saigon generals, on the back and try to communicate to them some of their sham optimism. Don't worry, they say to the generals, we've given you plenty of guns and ammunition. You've got aircraft galore and ordnance of all types. Thousands of American officers will remain on the staff of the American military attaché. American consulates will continue to be in operation in Da Nang, Bien Hoa, Can Tho. Don't worry, we tell you, Uncle Sam won't easily give up his master's role in this country.

However, the top leaders of the Saigon administration don't feel at all reassured. The price of gold is a good political barometer. It has shot up at a terrifying rate: 32,000 piastres an ounce around Tet; now 43,000. Starting from February 27, the price of Saigon newspapers has gone up from 25 piastres to 35 piastres a copy. Their numbers have dwindled a great deal and will continue to do so. The Saigonese would very much like to read the newly-signed agreement restoring peace in the neighbouring country of Laos. But no newspaper is allowed to print it.

An epidemic of bankruptcies

A lot of people have gone out ot business. Bankrupt, the laundry shops catering to American bases. Bankrupt, the organizers of "sexy" shows for GIs and their allies. Bankrupt, the shady "lawyers" specializing in getting "provisional wives" for GIs, providing them with marriage certificates, and obtaining exit visas for them.

Some Saigonese have this comment: "Bankruptcy is also staring in the face the biggest enterprise involved in business with the Americans in this country: the one headquartered in the Independence Palace!"

That the regime is on its last legs is evident: one need only watch that TV picture of the heavy-jowled three-star general in a mandarin's dress (brocade gown and black turban) who "looks so awfully like the late Diem!"

T.T.

In the liberated areas

Cultural, Education and Health achievements :

— Immediately after the Paris Agreement on Ending the War and Restoring Peace in Viet Nam was made public, the Information and Cultural service of Southern Central Viet Nam provinces circulated its text in tens of thousands of copies of news bulletins and the paper *Liberation*. Many districts in the same region organized theatrical performances to greet the re-establishment of peace down to the level of village and hamlet. Zonal and provincial song and dance ensembles, and film projection teams toured various localities in the delta and mountains.

In Kien Phong province the Information and Culture service publicized the Paris Agreement and its Protocols as well as the Appeal of the NFL and PRG in tens of thousands of copies. The text of the Agreement was also repeatedly broadcast especially for the local people and troops of the Saigon Army, by shock propaganda teams and various groups of cadres. Song and dance troupes and projection teams staged series of performances for the masses.

— Parallel to the drive in agricultural production, the local people also scored good achievements in health work. A sanitary network has taken shape in the delta and the mountains alike. One-half of the liberated villages in Southern Trung Bo now boast of enough physicians and sanitarians in charge of hospitals and infirmaries. Apart from care to patients, the physicians and sanitarians also propagate measures for disease prevention and eradication of social coils inherited from the Saigon regime. The health service moreover has produced one million tablets of medicine of various kinds, and trained or given refresher course to 145 sanitarians, physicians and pharmacists.

— The Health Service of Can Tho province sent last month many mobile medical teams to villages and hamlets to give medical examinations and preventive inoculations to tens of thousands of people. Within ten days, dozens of infirmaries and maternity houses were put into operation.

— Up to now nearly all revolutionary bases and newly liberated territories of various districts and provinces of the area continuation schools or classes and primary and elementary schools. 70 more teachers have been assigned to different districts and provinces by the Educational Service.

— 20 schools were newly built and all old schools restored in Can Tho province.

— The revolutionary power of Quang Tri province has led the people in actively building new schools and classes to satisfy the educational needs of the local people. The Educational Service of Gio Linh district has dispatched 200 teachers to villages.

Villages in Trieu Phong and Hai Lang districts have seen their contingent of teachers reinforced by 400 general and complementary education teachers sent by the district authorities. The *The People Build Schools* Movement was stepped up in Cam Lo and Huong Hoa districts. Nearly all schools of district and village levels have now their own Pupils' Parents' Associations.

— Revolutionary power has been set up in the districts of Cai Lay Bac, Cai Lay Nam and Cai Be, My Tho province, with a view to giving guidance to the population in implementing the Paris Agreement on Ending the War and Restoring Peace in Viet Nam. The people by the thousands held rallies to greet the new revolutionary power, denounce the Saigon administration's shelling and "mopping-up" operations against the liberated areas and its obstructing the movements of the people.

— 50 Highlanders recently left the Bu Dang concentration camp in Binh Long province, under the Saigon administration for their villages in the liberated areas.

— In view of the strict implementation of the Paris Agreement to consolidate and preserve a lasting peace in South Viet Nam, the population of various districts in Ca Mau province are exerting themselves to build up the liberated areas, boost production and shape a new life.

— In four days the engineering section of the Transport and Communication Service of Quang Tri province gave guidance to the local people in the filling and levelling of thousands of bomb craters and in the repairing of damaged road sections and bridges.

— Last week, thousands of people who had been impounded by the Saigon administration in concentration camps in Ben Luc, Duc Hoa and Hiep Hoa districts, Long Sa province forced the authorities to let them return to the liberated areas.

Here is peace ! To school again !

IN THE CITIES

Abolishment of draft urged by people in Saigon-controlled area

After the signing of the Paris Agreement on Viet Nam not only did the Saigon administration refuse to cancel the 21-12-72 law drafting citizens from 16 to 50 years of age now living in areas under its control for tens years, but also enacted on Feb. 15 a new regulation compelling all youths born in 1957 to report at the local administrative organs and fill in a statement. Public feeling was running high against this decision and clamoured for its immediate cancellation to leave fathers of families to earn their living and support their dependents.

No guard duty for pupils, Hau Nghia middle school children urge

From Feb. 10 to 25, the Saigon authorities at Hau Nghia town, Long An province forbade teachers to use text books of the curriculum, thus enabling psywar experts to cram the pupils' minds with Nguyen Van Thieu's warlike, peace-wrecking propaganda and to compel them to "defend" the Saigon rotten fascist regime, arms in hands. Hundreds of pupils of Hau Nghia middle schools, resisted this manoeuvre and demanded that only lessons with sound contents be taught and that they be exempted from guard duty to have more time to their studies.

"The sick should be cared for" demand Bien Hoa citizens

Bien Hoa people recently denounced the head of the Health Department of the Saigon administration for neglecting the sick. Many people seriously ill had to pay tips for their admission to hospitals, otherwise they would be left with no care. A number of them protested and pressed for an end to such practices.

Democratic freedoms claimed by oil workers

Workers of such oil firms in Saigon as *Esso, Caltex, Shell,* recently called an extraordinary meeting for the urgent signing of a contract with their employers establishing pay rises and trade union freedoms. The gathering decided that stronger measures would be taken by the workers if in seven days their demands were not met.

appeal

for the release of political prisoners

Recently, 30 cultural, political and social movements and 15 personalities in South Viet Nam have made public an Appeal calling upon the International Commission of Control and Supervision, the governments signing the Agreement and the International Conference on Viet Nam, to intervene for the release of political prisoners detained by the Saigon administration. We reproduce hereunder the text of the Appeal :

"We, movements and persons, signatories to this Appeal, Consider that :

1 — "The Agreement on Ending the War and Restoring Peace in Viet Nam" signed in Paris on January 27, 1973 is applauded by the Vietnamese people around the world.

2 — The Agreement can be the foundation for ending the war, restoring peace in Viet Nam only if the parties concerned implement it seriously.

3 — After years of bloodletting war, the national reconciliation and the abolishment of hatred in Viet Nam become of utmost importance and necessity.

4 — The national reconciliation and concord in Viet Nam is destined to be completely successful only when all the signatories of the Agreement urgently implement at the first opportunity the release of all civilian personnel captured and detained as a result of their struggle for peace and justice, in reference to the spirit of Article 8 (c), Article 11, and Article 17 (a) of the Agreement.

We hereby appeal to :

The International Commission of Control and Supervision, the governments signing the Agreement and the International Conference on Viet Nam to be convened, to intervene without delay for the release of Vietnamese citizens who have been struggling for peace and for their country and who have been captured and detained in past years. These people have been imprisoned as individuals or as members active in organisations not directly related to either side of the fighting in Viet Nam.

We attach herewith the preliminary list of detainees whose relatives have just communicated with us, this list being subject to further completions when we obtain more information.

Saigon, February 2, 1973."

Signatures of

I — The representatives of cultural, political and social movements in South Viet Nam :

Committee for the Improvement of the Prison System in South Viet Nam ; Progressive Nationalist Force ; *Khat Si Ni Gioi* Buddhist Church ; Front of People Struggling for Peace ; Union of Private School Teachers ; United Force of *Cao Dai* Notables ; Confederation of Governmental and Private Sector of Buddhist Employees in Viet Nam ; Union of Progressive Workers ; Union of Merchants of 36 markets in Saigon ; Union of *Song Long Tau* Dock Workers ; *Doi Dien* Group ; *Trinh Bay* Group ; National Young Christian Workers Movement ; Movement of Catholics for Peace ; Confederation of Viet Nam Buddhist Women ; Association of Vietnamese Women ; Association of Long Hoa Buddhist Women ; Movement for the Right to Live of Orphans and Children Victims of War ; *Hong Mon* Buddhist Sect ; Association of Buddhist Women Governmental and Private Employees ; Association of Buddhist Women ; Association for Defending Women Dignity ; Confederation of Viet Nam School Students Union ; Association of Imprisoned Students' Mothers ; Association of Saigon Buddhist Students ; National Union of Viet Nam Students ; Union of *Van Hanh* University Students ; Union of Saigon University Students ; Movement for the Building of an Independent Economy ; Movement for the National Self-determination ; Movement of Viet Nam Women Struggling for the Right to Live.

II — The personnalities

Dr. Le Van Hoach, former Prime Minister

Dr. Le Van Ly

Catholic priests :

Rev. Thien Cam, Professor, University of Saigon

Rev. Nguyen Van Hoa,

Rev. Vu Xuan Hieu, chaplain for National Young Christian Workers Movement

Rev. Bui Thong Giao

Rev. Nguyen Ngoc Lan

Rev. Huynh Cong Minh, chaplain for Young Christian Students Movement

Rev. Nguyen Viet Khai

Rev. Tran The Luan

Rev. Truong Ba Can, chaplain for National YCW Movement.

III — Deputies, Senators

Deputy **Nguyen Huu Chung**

Deputy **Ho Ngoc Nhuan**

Senator **Hong Son Dong**

Deputy **Ho Van Minh**

RSVN PRG returns to US side

34 captured military and civilian personnel

ON February 12, 1973, at the Loc Ninh airfield in the liberated zone of South Viet Nam, the Provisional Revolutionary Government of the Republic of South Viet Nam returned to the American side 27 members of its military and civilian personnel captured by the liberation forces.

On March 5, 1973, the RSVN PRG handed to the American side another 34 persons, including 26 military personnel of the US and eight civilians of the US, the Philippines and West Germany who had been captured while working for the US armed forces in South Viet Nam.

Before the representatives of the International Commission of Control and Supervision and the Four-Party Joint Military Commission, Truong Cong Dong, on behalf of the Special Representation of the Republic of South Viet Nam in the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam, declared : "By force of circumstances, the Provisional Revolutionary Government of the Republic of South Viet Nam had to request the Government of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam to keep the above-mentioned military and civilian personnel. With the concurrence of the DRVN Government, the return of these persons is organized at Gia Lam airport in Hanoi."

After agreeing on the procedures, the representatives of the International Commission and the Four-Party Joint Military Commission were shown the last detention place of the returnees, before returning to the airport to witness the hand-over.

The delegation of the Provisional Revolutionary Government was headed by Le Khoan Hong. The US government was represented by Colonel James R. Dennett with General Ogan as adviser to the delegation. The organizing committee for the hand-over had provided all facilities for the hundreds of Vietnamese and foreign newsmen to cover the event.

At 13.00 hrs, two buses transported to the airport the returnees. They stepped down in an orderly manner and fell into line. They all looked healthy and cheerful. Most of them were still very young. Among the 26 military 23 were officers and soldiers of the Army, three others were members of the Marine Corps and five were specialists. They are native of twenty one different states in America and were captured on different battle zones of South Viet Nam : Quang Tri—Thua Thien, the 5th interzone (South Central Viet Nam) the Central Viet Nam Highlands... belonging to nine provinces in South Viet Nam.

The man detained for the longest time was Richard Gordan Burgess, Washington, captured on July 25, 1966 in Quang Tri province. Some had been gravely wounded, like William Allen Baird and Bail Mason Kerns, who received head fractures or had the spine broken and were saved by doctors of the Liberation Army. On learning of their imminent return, they all showed great joy and expressed their gratitude to their captors who had given them great medical attention and a humane treatment and provided them with every condition to exercise their right of equality with their superiors in the everyday life in the camps. Many smilingly waved to the Vietnamese officials on the ground after boarding the plane.

The hand-over took place in an efficient and quick manner, lasting no more than fifteen minutes from the reading of the first name to the last. The representatives of the RSVN PRG and of the US government exchanged the documents on the hand-over and reception of the returnees with evident satisfaction. Once again Colonel James R. Dennett, on behalf of the American side, thanked the Vietnamese side and told the representatives of the International Commission and the Joint Military Commission Team :

"The hand-over has been completed as satisfactorily as the United States had wished it to be". Before his departure, General Ogan shook hands with Truong Cong Dong, representative of the Provisional Revolutionary Government, and said : "The hand-over was very well done. We are grateful, we are very happy."

The C.141 transport plane of the USAF bearing number 7895 took off from Gia Lam airport, for a US base in the Philippines.

P.T.

A hand-over of captured US military personnel

A touching return

AT daybreak, PLAF men and women, cadres and locals of both sexes had gathered in the airfield while in Loc Ninh township the women who had spent the night cooking rice cakes were attending to the meals prepared for female prisoners about to be released from Can Tho jail.

As the Saigon administration had not told them anything about the Paris Agreement and prevented all contacts between them and members of the military delegation of the RSVN PRG, they were in the dark even after their landing on the liberated airfield as to the destination and purpose of their trip. Consequently their attitude was one of great caution. As they walked down the plane, their arms were tightly linked in pre-arranged groups with able-bodied women helping the invalids and the sick. The welcomers rushed forward to offer help but they refused to let any one touch them. As I noticed a crippled woman nearly fainting in another's arms, I volunteered to carry her on my back, a polite reply came to me :

"Thank you, Sir, we can rely on each other all right."

I pointed to the golden star on my "Liberation" hat but they still did not trust me. Their high vigilance and sense of discipline only enhanced our sympathy and admiration. There was an all-pervasive joy when the last suspicions were removed. All rites and formalities were cast aside ; detainees and welcomers, dissolved in tears, fell into one another's arms in tight embraces. Physicians and medical assistants performed their emergency tasks with moist eyes. Photographers from time to time stopped clicking their cameras and wiped tears off their eyes. Mrs Xuan, who had given the Revolution her three children, hugged a young girl, fanned her and said : "Stop weeping, my child, stop weeping, how I shall love you now that you are returned to me."

Mrs Tu, 80, handed each detainee a rice cake on a plate. In the Loc Ninh Information Hall, food and sweeties had been laid on tables. Our home-coming women sat at them but could not eat anything. They had their eyes fixed on Uncle Ho's photo then on those who were meeting them.

Someone pulled at my shirt sleeve. I turned round and saw the woman who had "sirred" me. "Don't take offence, please. We had to be constantly on the look-out just for our life's sake. How many times they had told us that we would be set free, but in fact, they only took us to into places to make away with us, or flag us renouncing our ideal."

I told her about Loc Ninh, Saigon, the free zone. She drank in each one of my words. On her liberation hat she had made for herself in jail, I saw four initials embroidered in blue : KQLT. She explained to me that it was short for *Khong quen loi the* (Don't forget your oath) — a reminder that would invite enemy brutalities.

Many detainees showed us shirts and kerchiefs with drawings or letters embroidered by themselves while in jail. A girl from Quang Ngai had embroidered a whole picture of her native village. Another one from Thua Thien who still had her original "Liberation" hat had adorned its lining with these verses :

"In these dark cells

I am confident that bright days will come !"

The high morale of our women prisoners and the warm feeling of comradeship between them and the welcomers had produced their effect on the Saigon Army's officers and men coming here today for the handing over. They stood in a corner lost in deep thoughts. Major Hoang Dinh Hoat, governor of Can Tho jail, had turned down a request by major Nguyen Ngoc Dung, representative of the Military Delegation of the RSVN PRG, to visit the last detention place of her country women by saying : "Major, if you come, they will warmly welcome you and boo us. So I hope you understand."

NGUYEN NGAN

A meeting of the Four-Party Joint Military Commission

Saigon administration and Article 8...

(Continued from page 1)

partisans. The great majority of them has never been tried nor undergone any regular prosecution procedure. Its medieval prison regime and unbelievable methods of torture were exposed at the Brussels World Jurists' Conference and the Rome International Conference by two witnesses, Jean Pierre Debris and André Menras, jailed for two and half years at Chi Hoa, Saigon and freed on February 29, 1973, two days after the signing of the Paris Agreement, not in implementation of its provisions but in an attempt to get rid of embarrassing witnesses.

AFP Saigon correspondent, R. Paringaux interviewed 14 returnees from Poulo Condor island where they had belonged to the 124 inmates of the notorious "tiger cages". These 14 rescued skeletons who had to crawl on the ground when moving said they had been clandestinely released on the island, transported to the main land to be finally left without any care in a pagoda, under strict prohibition to return to Saigon and particularly to meet newspaper men. US doctor John Champlin of the US Air Force who had examined them has diagnosed 14 cases of partial paralysis, TB and intestinal troubles.

Saigon democratic organisations denounced that 50,000 political inmates of the huge prisons of Chi Hoa and Cay Dua (Phu Quoc island) had been divided into small groups and mixed with "the common law" offenders and that on January 28, 1973, 300 political detainees were brought from Phu Quoc to Soc Trang where some fifty of them were put on board Saigon army transport planes bound for unknown destination. On the night of February 14, 1973, 4 prisoners in Ben Tre jail, including two women were tortured to death and their bodies thrown on the Tan Thanh crossroads.

Mr Nguyen Van Thieu had threatened to exterminate all the "undesirable" to his regime. It is feared that he should make good his threat with US condoning and direct help.

As a signatory to not only the Paris Agreement and its Protocols but also the Act of the International Conference on Viet Nam, which guarantees their full enforcement, the Saigon administration can in no way dodge its obligation to return all the captured Vietnamese military and civilian personnel without any restriction. The Vietnamese people and world opinion demand the immediate cessation of violations of the Agreement and of its Protocols by the Saigon side and its US supporters. They require the release within the lengths of time already agreed on of the remaining PLAF POW's and of all the Saigon-held Vietnamese civilian personnel. If the Saigon regime persists in its evasive attitude and relapses into serious violations of the provisions of the Paris Agreement and its Protocols, it will have to assume full and complete responsibility for all the unforeseeable consequences which may arise therefrom. The US side itself cannot either shirk its own responsibility since it is with its aiding and abetting that Thieu has been challenging the fundamental clauses of the Agreement of Ending the War and Restoring Peace in Viet Nam.

XUAN KHANH

In the DRVN

7 MAJOR BRIDGES RESTORED

WITHIN a short period of time since the restoration of peace, North Viet Nam has completed the restoration of 7 major motor road and railway bridges which had been heavily damaged during the US air war of destruction against the DRVN. They are :

The Long Bien bridge across the Red River in Hanoi

It measures 2,290 metres and includes 19 spans the longest of which is 130 metres long and weighs nearly 1,000 thousand tons.

During the first US air war of destruction (1964 — 1968) the bridge was attacked ten times, was damaged over a length of 670 metres. In particular, 7 of its spans and 4 main pillars were badly damaged.

During the second air war of destruction, the bridge was targeted on 4 occasions and took serious damage over a length of nearly one kilometre. Two big spans were blasted down.

After forty one days and night of urgent repair, the bridge was reopened to traffic on Sunday Feb. 4.

The Tam Bac bridge in Haiphong

The bridge includes three spans and measures 90 metres in length and 4.75 metres in width.

It was attacked sixteen times by US aircraft and almost completely destroyed.

After 36 days of repair the bridge was reopened to traffic last Sunday Feb. 4.

The Duong bridge in Hanoi suburbs.

The bridge measures 228 metres. During 14 US attacks, two of its three spans were damaged. 92 metres of both the rail-line and motor-road were destroyed.

The bridge was reopened to traffic after only 13 days of restoration.

The Dap Cau bridge in Ha Bac province, 33 kilometres Northeast of Hanoi.

The bridge was four times attacked by US planes and had one span blasted down.

It was restored to traffic after 30 days of repair.

The Bac Giang bridge in Ha Bac province, 50 kilometres Northeast of Hanoi.

It measures 125 metres and comprises four spans. It was subject to 32 US airraids and had three spans destroyed.

It was restored to traffic after 40 days of repair.

The Tao Xuyen in Thanh Hoa province, 166 kilometres south of Hanoi.

This 70-metre bridge was 14 times attacked by US planes and 4 times by artillery of the 7th Fleet.

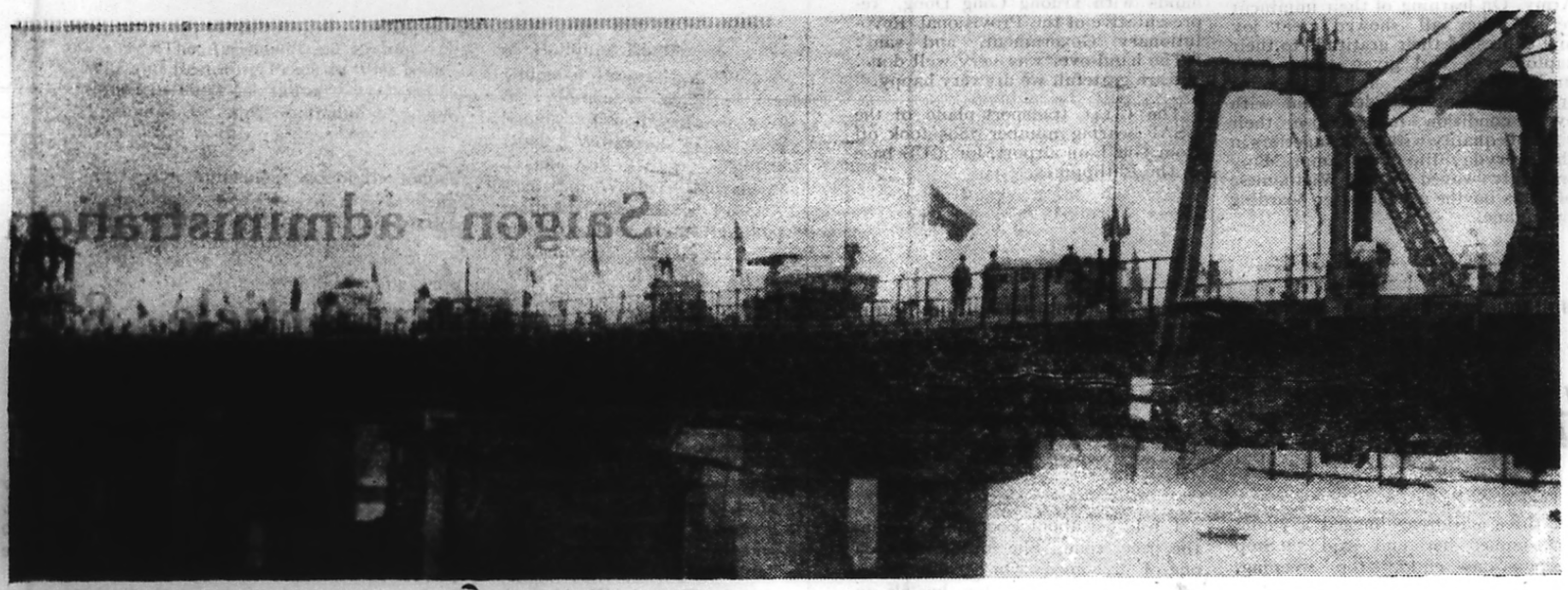
One of its three spans was heavily damaged.

Restored to traffic after 30 days of restoration.

The Song Hoa bridge in Lang Son province, 99 kilometres northeast of Hanoi.

This railway bridge measures 68 metres. It was 11 times attacked and virtually destroyed by US aircraft.

The bridge was restored after only 5 days of repair.



Hanoi Long Bien Bridge cleared after 41 days of urgent repair

Here and there

The needle in the rags

A needle hidden in rags will in the end out. There is nothing sounder than the axioms of popular wisdom and there is nothing more frustrating than human inaptitude to benefit from their valuable lessons.

So the Saigon administration has been persisting in perpetrating violation after violation of the Paris Agreement with US aiding and abetting, while clamouring that the Provisional Revolutionary Government of the Republic of South Viet Nam is to be blamed. The Saigon spokesman shouts himself hoarse levelling heaps of charges like a thief crying "Stop thief !"

But the truth remains the truth. To cite only one case out of some tens of thousands, the Quang Tri Liberation Forces dealing with an incursion on March 4, 1973 at 13 hours of a Saigon craft bearing serial number 703 into Vinh Hoa 2 village, south of Cua Viet, an area under the PRG control, shot the intruding boat afire, killed 4 men on board and sent the remaining four diving for their life into the water. At a recent exhibition at Quang Tri on the Saigon great scale onslaught also on Cua Viet, a map showing the different phases of the coup and a quantity of war booty like badges of the "Mad Buffaloes," "Sharks," "Sea Eagles," armour divisions 17, 18, 20, M.41 and M.48 tanks and M.113 armour cars were certainly no fiction.

Moreover, the Rome World Conference on Viet Nam held from February 22 to 24 approved a series of resolutions displaying universal solidarity with the Indochinese peoples. One of them stigmatized the Saigon administration's continued arresting and jailing en masse South Vietnamese patriots, violating the South Vietnamese people's fundamental rights and democratic freedoms. It urged the US and Saigon regime to strictly abide by Article 11 of the Paris Accord which bans reprisals and discrimination against individuals or organizations having collaborated with either side and ensures democratic liberties. The document also said among other things : "On the strength of first hand and reliable evidence, the Conference is certain that hundreds of thousands of patriots and peace partisans are being imprisoned for political reasons and are dying a slow death in all kinds of detention centres dotting Saigon-controlled areas and that arrests continue taking place." Through what channel had the gathering which assembled delegates from 65 countries and 15 international bodies collected such specific details ? How had the truth transpired ? Let the Saigon administration ask the wind which in ancient time embarrassed King Midas.

A cudgel blow

At the February 26, 1973 plenary session of the Paris International Conference on Viet Nam, Tran Van Lam, the Saigon representative put forth a 10-point proposal claiming that his administration was "the only constitutional and legal in South Viet Nam," which betrayed its scheme to keep our country partitioned for a long time and to ignore the PRG of the RSVN.

At the March 1, 1973 plenary session for the initialling of the Conference's Act, he intimated that he would sign the latter which he asserted would not be to his government's liking. He suggested that the assembly pass a declaration to be annexed to the Act, recognizing his government as the "only legal one in South Viet Nam."

Madame Nguyen Thi Binh, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the PRG forcefully pointed out that such a claim was at variance with the Paris Accord and the Conference's Act and with the spirit of national concord. She added that the International Conference had only one official document, its Act, and required that the Saigon administration strictly implement the latter as well as the Paris Agreement not with words but with concrete deeds.

Her motion was at once seconded by the Foreign Minister of the DRVN, RSVN, China, Poland and Hungary.

Such a quasi-unanimous rejection was a real blow at the Saigon regime whose isolation was aggravating. To its great disappointment, Madame Binh's signature was eventually affixed next to those of the USSR and other powers' foreign ministers attending the meeting.

The absence of the Saigon delegate at Madame Binh'e reception attended by the US deputy Secretary of State W. Porter came under widespread criticisms. The presence of the RSVN Foreign Minister at Mr Rogers's party as the latter's guest, prompted many diplomats present to exclaim : "It's inconceivable ?" and some newsmen to comment : "It's a real cudgel blow at the Saigon administration ! "

HUONG NAM

New US war escalation against Cambodia condemned

ACCORDING to *AKI*, the spokesman of the Foreign Ministry of the Royal Government of National Union of Cambodia, in a statement issued on March, vehemently denounced and condemned the new war escalation taken by the US imperialists against Cambodia.

The statement denounced the US for having built near the Pochentong airport a big logistic base to supply fuel, ammunition and especially napalm bombs to US aircraft in their bombing operations over the Cambodian territory.

The spokesman pointed out: Over the past fortnight, the US Command in the Pacific, the US Defence Department and State Department have unceasingly threatened to intensify the bombing of Cambodia, a peaceful, independent and sovereign country. At first, they sent fighter aicraft to carry out so-called "tactical bombings" which were followed by "strategic bombings" by B.52s, and more recently started the construction of the above mentioned logistic base at the Pochentong airport.

The statement stressed: The US escalation of war can only enhance the Cambodian people's determination to resist the US imperialists and their Phnom Penh lackeys.

The statement called on the people and governments of all the justice- and freedom-loving countries in the world to give their resolute support to the anti-US struggle for national salvation of the Cambodian people and condemn the US new acts of war escalation against Cambodia.

The Cambodian fighters among the population

For ever with Viet Nam

Italian, DRVN and RSVN flags were fluttering over Jolly Hotel in downtown Rome while the spring weather was warming up and the vegetation burgeoning. Among the crowds rang laughters and talks in many languages. Men and women hugged, or gave warm handshakes to, delegates of North and South Viet Nam whom they literally mobbed. Some 600 representatives of 65 countries had come to attend the Emergency International Conference on Viet Nam.

The strongest hailed from the United States — 40 members of all walks of life, including Viet Nam anti-war veterans. A great many intellectuals, politicians and other personages of renown graced this gathering of the world's peoples—the largest of the kind since the signing of the Paris Agreement on Viet Nam. That was a convention of friends of the Vietnamese people from all continents.

In the main hall, Signor O. Lombardi, Chairman of the All-Italy–Viet Nam Committee greeted the victory of the Vietnamese people in a moving speech and emphasized:

"The universal mobilisation for the support of the Vietnamese people and the peoples of Indochina not only must not stop, but it is more than ever necessary that it be redoubled with intensity and vigour.

The purpose of this conference is therefore that of organizing the support of world opinion to impose the realisation of these accords and to mobilize the course towards the reconstruction of a country completely devastated by an aggression carried through with genocidal and scientific calculation.

Please allow me to underline that the Italian people are honored to be allowed to act as hosts to this conference in their capital city, and to assure you of the deeply felt interest and participation of the vast majority of the Italian people. We can honestly state that not one city, not one village, not one neighborhood is unaware of the struggle of the Vietnamese people, and that workers, peasants, students, intellectuals and technicians everywhere, have taken part with moving spontaneity in an almost permanent mobilisation to the great campaign for support and solidarity with Viet Nam.

Before getting down to work, I believe that there can be no greater form of well-wishing for this conference than to dedicate a reverent thought to that great figure, President Ho Chi Minh who, incarnating with his person, his actions and his thoughts the collective spirit of the great Vietnamese people, demonstrated that imperialism is not invincible, constituting an example and incalculable help for the liberation of the world from every form of oppression. We all have a great debt toward the Vietnamese people who, in defending their liberty, have also defended ours."

The world shared our joy. It was vigilant in face of the forces hostile to peace. Our American friends brought us new evidence of violations of the Paris Agreement on Viet Nam by the United States and the Saigon administration. Our Swedish friends, with indignation, bared the Nguyen Van Thieu gang continued killing, victimizing and oppressing their own countrymen. Father Nguyen Dinh Thi showed the delegates letters and photographs that have just been received from Saigon, all of them spelt out the brutality of the Nguyen Van Thieu administration engaged in sabotaging peace and national concord and in doing violence to democratic liberties.

André Debris, a teacher in mathematics, who had served two years in a Saigon prison with another teacher—André Menras—related how he had been detained and tortured by Thieu's men.

The conference passed without a dissentient voice a resolution saying that "it is the direct responsibility of all nations of the world to have genuine peace achieved in Viet Nam," "to demand the release of tens of thousands of patriots now pining in the jails of the Saigon regime," and "to urge that the United States government take appropriate measures to compel the Saigon administration to abide by the Paris Agreement."

How moving it was to hear the delegates tell about what their countries or organizations had done, were doing and would do in the future to help the Vietnamese people heal their war wounds. Their undertakings assume rich forms and are of great value.

The Conference solemnly declared:

"Under the new conditions created by the Paris Agreement on Viet Nam, aid to the Vietnamese people's rehabilitation and long-range reconstruction should be viewed as an act of solidarity of all nations and all countries whatever their social systems. Democratic organizations and friends of Viet Nam the world over who have contributed to the victory of the Vietnamese people over the aggressors must bend their energies to meet the need in the reconstruction of Viet Nam."

Many American students had worked overtime to earn money to contribute to the economic rehabilitation of Viet Nam. Mrs Fukikusi told the delegates that Japanese women wanted to share in the providing of electric power to a number of North Vietnamese cities. A number of Italian artists, including reputed ones, had organized themselves into a group specializing in the production of works to help Vietnamese cultural and information services propagandize the victory of the Vietnamese people; many sketches were shown to us. Rome's metallurgical workers expressed the wish to do their share in the care for Vietnamese orphans. Young Americans who had burnt their draft cards to protest the Viet Nam war told us that they had collected almost half a million dollars in the *Three million dollars to rebuild the Bach Mai Hospital* drive. Nine organizations of French scientists who had donated medicine in wartime, would soon send books on science and technology, microscropes and other sophisticated and easy-to-handle medical implements to the liberated zone of South Viet Nam. A West German professor sported on his breast a badge with this red inscription: *For ever with Viet Nam.*

Today as yesterday the world's peoples stand by the side of the Vietnamese people. And today as yesterday the Vietnamese people are living up to the confidence and affection of their friends around the world.

H. H.

Statement of Rome World Conference on Viet Nam

Following is the statement on the implementation of the Viet Nam Peace Agreement adopted by the World Conference on Viet Nam held in Rome recently:

The World Conference on Viet Nam, convened by the Italy-Viet Nam Committee, met in Rome from Feb. 22 to 24, 1973 with the participation and support of representatives of countries and political, social and religious forces of all continents, was an emergency international gathering at the historic moment immediately following the signing of the Jan. 27 Agreement on Ending the War and Restoring Peace in Viet Nam.

This Agreement has provided the political and juridical basis that guarantees the fundamental national rights of the Vietnamese people, i.e. independence, sovereignty, territorial integrity, and unity. The right of the population of South Viet Nam to self-determination and democratic liberties have been clearly defined therein.

The Conference, holding that it was expressing the innermost feelings of the world peoples, acclaimed with joy the ending of the atrocious war waged by the US government with the most inhuman means of destruction upon the Vietnamese people.

It welcomed the great victory the Vietnamese people had just recorded in the long and heroic struggle which they put up for decades with a resolve to secure their freedom and independence, which filled mankind with admiration and gratitude.

This victory was achieved with the aid of the socialist, progressive, and peace-loving countries, and the peoples of the whole world, who fought side by side with the Vietnamese. The failure of US aggression is of great international significance. It helps impel the movement for independence and peace in the world. It will open up new prospects for new international relations of peace and co-operation.

The Conference held that the implementation of this Agreement depends, to an important degree, on the vigilance and mobilization of the world public opinion. The Conference made it a point to underline the clearly expressed determination of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam and the Provisional Revolutionary Government of the Republic of South Viet Nam to strictly abide by the Paris Agreement.

The US government and the Thieu administration, however, have been multiplying obstacles to the implementation of this Agreement. Among their violations of the spirit and letter of the Jan. 27 Agreement one can mention the following: assertion that the Saigon regime is the only legitimate one, refusal to dismantle all military bases, introduction of thousands of American "advisors" in civilian clothes, military operations mounted with air and heavy artillery support, difficulties created to the functioning of the commissions provided for, absence of all democratic liberties, failure to release political prisoners, and continued repression. The presence of American troops and military bases in the whole neighbouring region shows that the US government has not yet given up its policy of force in this part of the world.

The World Conference on Viet Nam, therefore, considered it its duty to underline the political and moral responsibility of

— the International Conference to be held in Paris on Feb. 26 with a view to guaranteeing respect and implementation of the Agreement and

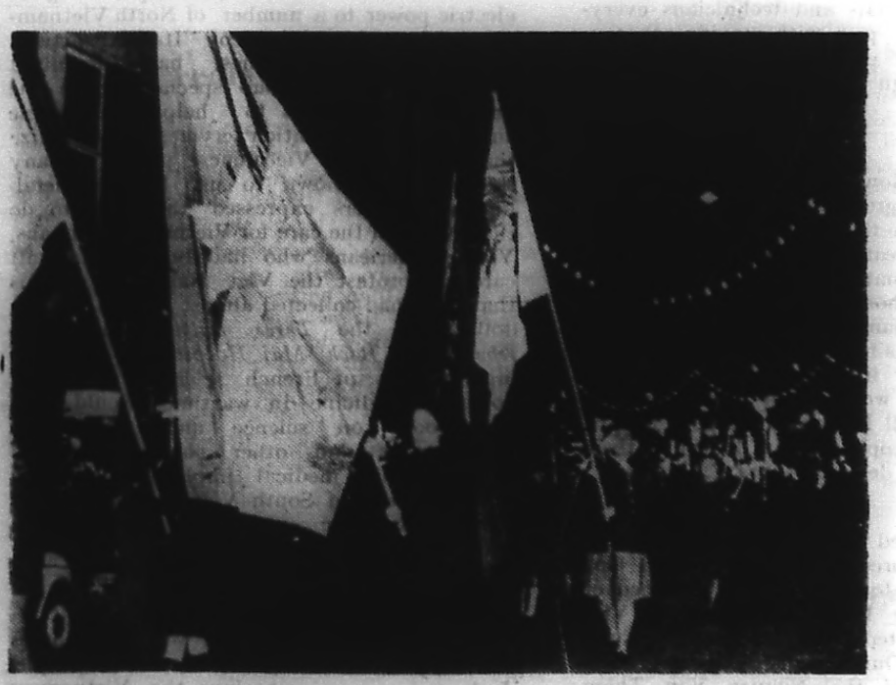
— the governments which, in the international community, must recognize and guarantee this Agreement.

The Conference called upon all international and national labour, political, religious, cultural, women and youth organizations to keep up, increase and expand their action to ensure the implementation of the Agreement and enlist material and political support for the people of Viet Nam.

The Conference noted that the implementation of the Agreement and the establishment of a lasting peace in Viet Nam and the whole of Indochina are the hope and the will of extensive forces in the world, which are more numerous than those represented at this conference.

This great hope cannot be and must not be deceived.

The cause of Viet Nam will be, tomorrow as it was yesterday, the cause of the entire mankind.



*

The world supports us

in brief

SWEDEN: *King Gustav Adolf donates 5,000 kroners to Viet Nam*

The nation-wide fund raising campaign for the reconstruction of Bach Mai hospital in Hanoi initiated by the Swedish Government has yielded splendid results. So far, contributions have reached 11.6 million kroners. On February 24, 1973, King Gustav Adolf subscribed 5,000 kroners. The Swedish Government has promised an aid of its own.

BRITAIN: *"Medical aid for Viet Nam" in full swing*

The "medical aid to Viet Nam" movement is gaining momentum in Britain. Forty organizations including many women's organizations have joined it.

Joan Mac Michael is one of its leading members. The money raised so far has risen to tens of thousands of pounds.

NORWAY: *Step-up of campaign to help Viet Nam's peace-time reconstruction*

Recently the Norwegian Women's Union has called for intensification of the drive to help Viet Nam's peace-time national reconstruction. Earlier the Viet Nam collection launched by Women's organizations in various towns had received a warm response and by the end of 1972 had gathered 40,000 kroners.

Recently Mr. Finn Lie, a Norwegian businessman, called at the Information Bureau of the Provisional Revolutionary Government of the Republic of South Viet Nam in Oslo and handed in 25,000 kroners out of his own pocket for the South Viet Nam National Front for Liberation.

URUGUAY: *Organizing fair for the benefit of Viet Nam*

The Women's Union, the General Confederation of Labour, and the Left-wing Liberation Front recently organized a fair in Montevideo with the participation of many Uruguayan artistes. The proceeds of the sales of art articles there will be contributed to the fund for the construction of a hospital in Viet Nam.

ARGENTINA: *Call for help to Viet Nam to reconstruct her bombed out cities*

At a big mass rally in Buenos Ayres, all the speakers agreed that the victory of the Vietnamese people is also that of all freedom-loving people in the world and called on the Argentine people to launch a wide collection to help Viet Nam rebuild her towns and cities.

VENEZUELA: *Welcome meeting for Viet Nam's victory*

On February 23, thousands of workers carrying placards and slogans in support of Viet Nam paraded through main thoroughfares and later gathered at a square in the heart of Caracas. The participants warmly welcomed the victory of the Vietnamese people in the fight against US aggression and wished them great successes in peaceful construction.

ORGANIZATION OF AFRICAN UNITY (OAU): *Welcome to Viet Nam's victory*

The Council of Ministers of the Organization of African Unity (OAU) at its 20th meeting attended by the representatives of 41 countries adopted a declaration welcoming the victory of the Vietnamese people. The declaration said: "The example of the Vietnamese people, in terms of the concept as well method of struggle and their self-sacrifices, constitutes a source of encouragement to all freedom fighters."

The declaration of the organization which represents the whole continent also noted that the fight of the Vietnamese people had provided the African countries with invaluable lessons.

BULGARIA: *Communist Work Brigades named after South Viet Nam hero and heroine*

At the meeting to welcome the great victory of the Vietnamese people held on February 12, 1973, at the Sofia Cigarette Factory, the workers decided to name two of their Communist Work Brigades after Heroine Nguyen Thi Ut and Hero Nguyen Van Be of the South Viet Nam People Liberation Armed Forces. On this occasion, the representatives of the two groups pledged to step up production and support and assistance to the people of South Viet Nam. They also handed to the Embassy of the Republic of South Viet Nam in Bulgaria the workers' gift to the families of the two South Viet Nam hero and heroine who have laid their lives for the independence and freedom of their country.

SOUTH VIET NAM CENTRAL ORGAN OF THE SOUTH VIET NAM NATIONAL FRONT FOR LIBERATION